REMARKS:

Applicants appreciate the allowance of Claims 3, 4, and 12-26.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC §102(b)/35 USC §103(a)

Claim 5 is rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 USC §103(a) as obvious over Selliers (U.S. Pat. No. 6,144,897).

Claim 7 is rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Selliers in view of Skeirik (U.S. Pat. No. 5,282,261).

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections, but cancel Claims 5, 7 and 21 (which depended from Claim 7), without prejudice, and reserve the right to file a continuation application to cover such claims. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that a Notice of Allowance be issued on the allowed claims.

CONCLUSION

Having addressed all issues set out in the Office Action, Applicants respectfully submit that all of the claims are now in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

No fees other than that associated with the extension of time are believed to be due in conjunction with this response. In the event fees additional fees are due in conjunction with the response, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to deduct such fees from USPTO deposit account No. 03-3345, or to credit any overpayments to such account.

Dated Jawaans 7 Joss

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley A. Kopecky

Registration No. 48,460 FINA TECHNOLOGY, INC.

P.O. Box 674412

Houston, Texas, 77267 Telephone: 713-483-5386 Facsimile: 713-483-5383 Attorney for Applicant(s)